

March 12, 2020

Dear Families,

Over the last two days, we have continued to discuss topics related to the coronavirus. I'd like to emphasize that we are viewing all of these issues through the lens of not only student safety, but also the safety of our staff, families, and community at large.

This is an unprecedented situation, one that is rife with new challenges. We remain in continual contact with the Alameda County Department of Public Health, the Alameda County Office of Education, and surrounding districts as we discuss and decide on best steps forward.

Our most important update:

Excused Absences

Starting tomorrow, we will be excusing all absences for students whose families want to keep them home.

- All absences will now be excused from March 13 through March 26.
- **Schools will remain open and staff will be on hand to educate and care for children and to support families who may not have readily available alternatives or options following an immediate closure.**
- Throughout next week, we will continue both our expanded cleaning protocols and our modifications to the way we serve food.

We are aware that neighboring districts have begun to make decisions about school closures. We have scheduled an emergency board meeting on Friday, March 13, at 12:30 pm to discuss next steps. Additional plans and details will be announced following that meeting.

We understand that many families have anxieties about the current situation. Please understand that we are exploring options, weighing the pros and cons of various scenarios, and responding to real-time, rapidly changing events as quickly and skillfully as we can. We expect to have more information for you tomorrow.

Respectfully,

Pasquale Scuderi
Superintendent